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Letter dated 16 January 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) of 7 March 2001 concerning Liberia, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 7 March to 31 December 2001 (see annex). The report, which was adopted by the Committee today, 16 January 2002, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

(*Signed*) Kishore **Mahbubani**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia

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Annex

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) of 7 March 2001 concerning Liberia covers the period from 7 March to 31 December 2001.

2. The Bureau consisted of Ambassador Kishore Mahbubani (Singapore) as Chairman, with the delegations of Ireland and Mauritius providing the Vice-Chairmen. During this period, the Committee held nine meetings in addition to informal consultations.

II. Background information and summary of the work of the Committee

A. Background information

3. In its resolution 788 (1992) of 19 November 1992 the Security Council imposed a general and complete arms embargo on Liberia, and in its resolution 985 (1995) of 13 April 1995 the Security Council established a Committee to monitor its implementation.

4. In resolution 1343 (2001) of 7 March 2001, the Council dissolved the Committee, terminated the arms embargo and replaced it with a more comprehensive arms embargo with immediate effect for a 14-month period. Under the resolution the Council also established a new Committee to ensure the effective implementation of the new arms embargo and possible additional embargoes on diamonds and travel if Liberia did not cease its support for the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and other armed rebel groups in the region within two months.

5. On 12 April 2001, in accordance with paragraph 14 (i) of Council resolution 1343 (2001), the Committee established the list of RUF members subject to expulsion from Liberia under paragraph 2 of the resolution. This list was issued initially as SC/7047 on 12 April 2001, and revised on 23 May 2001 (SC/7062).

6. On 7 May 2001, in accordance with paragraph 8 of resolution 1343 (2001), the measures contained in paragraphs 6 (diamond ban) and 7 (travel ban) came into force for a period of 12 months. On 4 June 2001, in accordance with paragraph 14 (e) of that resolution, the Committee issued the initial list of persons subject to the travel ban (SC/7068).

7. In resolution 1343 (2001) the Council also established a five-member Panel of Experts for a period of six months, to, inter alia, monitor the implementation of the sanctions and to investigate any violations (S/2001/268). The Panel commenced work on 15 April 2001 and gave a preliminary briefing to the Committee on its activities on 15 July 2001. The report of the Panel was issued on 26 October 2001 as S/2001/1015.

B. Summary of the activities of the Committee

8. During the reporting period, the Committee received 13 notifications of travel under paragraph 7 (a) of resolution 1343 (2001), and considered 35 requests for travel ban waivers under paragraph 7 (b) of the resolution, of which 28 were granted. The Committee also received 13 requests for deletion from the list of persons affected by the travel ban (SC/7068 of 4 June 2001) and has yet to receive any request for exemption of non-lethal military equipment under paragraph 5 (c).

9. At its 4th, 5th and 9th meetings, held on 20 July, 7 August and 12 December, respectively, the Committee decided to retain the names of seven persons who had requested that their names be removed from the list of persons affected by the travel ban. On 18 December 2001, pursuant to its decision (at its 5th meeting) to conduct quarterly reviews of the travel ban list, the Committee decided, under the no-objection procedure, to delete the names of five persons. The outstanding request for deletion will be dealt with at the next quarterly review. Subsequently, the travel ban list was reissued as SC/7253 on 26 December 2001.

10. The Committee has had detailed discussions but has not yet been able to adopt guidelines for the conduct of its work as mandated under paragraph 14 (c) of resolution 1343 (2001).

11. Pursuant to paragraph 18 of resolution 1343 (2001), by which States are requested to report to the Committee within 30 days of the promulgation of the travel ban list on the actions they have taken to implement the measures imposed by paragraphs 5 to 7, to date 42 replies have been received from States in response to the Committee's note verbale (SCA/1/01/(10)) of 7 June 2001 and its follow-up (SCA/1/01(14)) of 27 August 2001 (see appendix).

C. Violations and alleged violations of the sanctions regime

12. Under paragraph 14 (b) of resolution 1343 (2001), the Committee is mandated "to consider, and to take appropriate action on, information brought to its attention by States concerning alleged violations of the measures imposed by paragraphs 5 to 7 [of the resolution], identifying where possible, persons or entities, including vessels or aircraft, reported to be engaged in such violations, and to make periodic reports to the Council."

13. At its first meeting, held on 5 April 2001, the Committee considered a letter dated 8 March 2001 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic addressed to the Chairman, providing information on a possible violation of the arms embargo. With respect to follow-up action, the Committee was able to agree only that the Chairman should send a letter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, thanking him for the information provided.

14. The Committee has since received no information from States concerning violations of the sanctions regime. Any information in that regard that has come to its attention is contained in the report of the Panel of Experts pursuant to paragraph 19 (e) of resolution 1343 (2001). The report was discussed in the Committee on 22 and 25 October 2001; in informal consultations in the Security Council on 2 November 2001; and in a public debate of the Security Council on 5 November 2001 (4405th meeting). The alleged violations and recommendations contained in

the report were subsequently discussed by the Committee on 16 and 28 November 2001 and on 12 December 2001. At its 9th meeting, on 12 December 2001, the Committee requested the Chairman to address letters to seek information from States alleged to have violated paragraph 7 of resolution 1343 (2001).

III. Other activities

15. In accordance with paragraph 2 of document S/1999/92 of 29 January 1999, entitled "Note by the President of the Security Council: work of the sanctions committees", the Chairman conducted a fact-finding mission to the region (Mali, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria) from 13 to 20 April 2001. The purpose of the visit was to ascertain the probable impact of the sanctions regime, the results and difficulties of implementation of the arms embargo as well as of the possible diamond and travel bans, scheduled to take effect on 7 May 2001; to reiterate the demands of the Security Council under paragraph 2 of resolution 1343 (2001) to the Government of Liberia; and to present the Government of Liberia with the list of RUF members whom it was required to expel (SC/7047). The Chairman briefed the Committee and the Security Council on his visit to the region on 27April 2001 and 4 May 2001, respectively.

16. On 4 May 2001, the Security Council conducted a first review, as provided in paragraph 23 of resolution 1343 (2001), of the arms embargo imposed by paragraph 5, as well as of Liberia's compliance with the demands of the Council as stated in paragraph 2 of the resolution. The members of the Council considered the report of the Secretary-General (S/2001/424 dated 30 April 2001) issued pursuant to paragraph 12 of the resolution, inputs from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and relevant information provided by the Committee. The Council decided to implement paragraphs 6 and 7 of resolution 1343 (2001), imposing additional measures in the form of a ban on the import of Liberian rough diamonds as well as the travel of senior members of the Liberian Government and its armed forces, their spouses, and any individuals providing support to armed rebel groups in countries neighbouring Liberia, as designated by the Committee (SC/7058).

17. Following the consultations of the Council of 4 May 2001, the President of the Council made a statement to the press on behalf of the members, noting, inter alia, that the members had concluded that the information available and the steps taken by the Government of Liberia had not been sufficient for the Council to decide that additional sanctions under resolution 1343 (2001) should be postponed. Stressing that the sanctions were limited, targeted and addressed to the Liberian leadership, he expressed the concern of the members with regard to the humanitarian situation in Liberia, as well as their interest in continuing and strengthening the strong cooperation that existed between the United Nations, ECOWAS and the Council.

18. The Security Council, on 7 November 2001, held its second review as provided for in paragraph 23 of resolution 1343 (2001) and considered an oral report by the Chairman, the report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia (S/2001/1015), the reports of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 13 (a) and (b) of the resolution (S/2001/939 and S/2001/965), and pursuant to paragraph 12 (S/2001/1025), on Liberia's compliance with the sanctions regime. Following the consultations, the President of the Council made a statement to the press in which he

noted that the members of the Council had had full and detailed discussions on whether the sanctions were having the desired effect; prospects for modifications in the sanctions regime; the possibility of additional sanctions; and how to ensure that the current sanctions regime remained targeted. He further noted that the members had agreed that the Council must remain engaged with Liberia and its people and encouraged the positive developments in the region. Finally, he stated that the members of the Council had requested the Committee to examine the recommendations contained in the report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia, and to submit a report on those recommendations to the Council for consideration as soon as possible.

IV. Observations

19. In the absence of any specific monitoring mechanism to ensure the effective implementation of the sanctions regime, the Committee urges all States and organizations in a position to provide it with pertinent information to do so.

Appendix

Replies received from States in accordance with paragraph 18 of Security Council resolution 1343 (2001)

State	*Date of report*	*Symbol*
Finland	21 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/1
Singapore	26 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/2
Gambia	27 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/3
Russian Federation	27 June 2001 7 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/4 S/AC.39/2001/30
United Kingdom	26 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/5
Bulgaria	25 June 2001 13 August 2001 26 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/6 S/AC.39/2001/26 S/AC.39/2001/26/Add.1
Ukraine	1 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/7
Slovak Republic	2 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/8
Ecuador	3 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/9
New Zealand	3 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/10
Monaco	9 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/11
France	3 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/12
Lebanon	9 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/13
Belize	20 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/14
Turkey	11 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/15
Slovenia	17 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/16
Portugal	17 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/17
Jamaica	20 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/18
Malta	23 July 2001 25 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/19 S/AC.39/2001/19/Add.1
Kazakhstan	18 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/20
Switzerland	2 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/21
Liechtenstein	1 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/22
Belgium	8 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/23
Austria	10 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/24

State	*Date of report*	*Symbol*
Canada	10 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/25
Japan	8 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/27
Ireland	23 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/28
Italy	5 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/29
Denmark	12 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/31
Belarus	11 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/32
China	14 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/33
Spain	17 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/34
Croatia	21 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/35
Niger	24 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/36
Sweden	3 October 2001	S/AC.39/2001/37
United States	5 October 2001	S/AC.39/2001/38
Australia	11 October 2001	S/AC.39/2001/39
Greece	23 October 2001	S/AC.39/2001/40
Tunisia	15 November 2001	S/AC.39/2001/41
Mauritius	27 November 2001	S/AC.39/2001/42
Mexico	28 November 2001	S/AC.39/2001/43
Thailand	16 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/44